

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Zhou et al.

Application No.: 09/283,431

Group: 1635

Filed: April 1, 1999

Examiner: Tracy Ann Vivlemore

Confirmation No.: 9988

For: MIXED BACKBONE OLIGONUCLEOTIDES TO REDUCE  
PHOSPHOROTHIOATE CONTENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 8, 2006, in the above-identified application. Reconsideration and further examination are requested.

Please amend the application as follows: